

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17 and please add new claims 20, 21, and 22 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A wireless networked cash management system, comprising:

at least one cash handling device in the system for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin counting, note counting, note sorting and cash redemption;

a system control unit for performing at least one of the a plurality of operations of accounting for cash dispensing by the cash handling device, providing for cash settlement of transactions carried out by the cash handling device and monitoring maintenance information, said control unit also providing commands to the cash handling device for operation of the cash handling device ~~without needing authorization from a remotely located network host computer~~; and

wherein said cash handling device and said system control unit communicate through a wireless communication network operating according to a standard for locally distributed wireless networks; and

wherein the locally distributed wireless network communicates directly without intermediate servers and within a range between the cash handling device and the control unit of no more than approximately 100 meters.

2. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the cash handling device is a coin handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin counting and cash redemption.

3. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 2, further comprising a currency handling device for performing at least one of the operations of note sorting, note counting and cash redemption, wherein said currency handling device and said control unit communicate through the wireless communication network.

4. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the cash handling device is a currency handling device for performing at least one of the operations of note sorting, note counting and cash redemption.

5. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, further comprising at least one I/O device, ~~wherein the I/O device is selected from a group consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a visual display, a keyboard, a cell phone, a pager, and or a personal digital assistant and a personal computer.~~

6. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the system control unit is electrically connected to a second network selected from a group consisting of: the Internet, an intranet, a LAN and a WAN.

7. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 6, wherein the second network utilizes at least one of a telephone dial-up modem, a digital satellite link modem and a broadband cable modem.

8. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates according to ~~the~~ a Bluetooth specification.

9. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 8, wherein the wireless communication network further operates according to ~~the~~ an RS-232 protocol.

10. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a frequency hopping, spread spectrum range of frequencies in a range from 2.4 Ghz to 2.56 GHz.

11. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in an infrared frequency range according to ~~the~~ an IrDA standard.

12. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network operates in a piconet distinguished from other networks by a selected frequency hopping sequence.

13. (Currently amended) A wireless networked cash management system comprising:

a system control unit including a radio frequency transceiver; and

a cash handling device, the cash handling device including a radio frequency transceiver for communicating cash handling data and status data to the control unit;

wherein the transceivers communicate directly with each other without the assistance of servers and wherein the transceivers communicate within a range of no more than approximately 100 meters; and

wherein the system control unit performs at least one of the operations of accounting for cash dispensing by the cash handling device, providing for cash settlement of transactions carried out by the cash handling device and monitoring maintenance information ~~without needing authorization from a remotely located network host computer.~~

14. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the transceiver of the control unit and the transceiver of the cash handling device each comprise a Bluetooth radio.

15. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the transceiver of the control unit and transceiver of the cash handling device operate in the infrared frequency range according to ~~the~~ an IrDA standard.

16. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the cash handling device is a coin handling device for performing at least one of the operations of coin sorting, coin counting and cash redemption.

17. (Currently amended) The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the ~~controller~~ system control unit comprises a personal computer that performs at least one of the operations of accounting for cash dispensing, providing for cash settlement and monitoring maintenance information for a plurality of cash handling machines.

18. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 13, further comprising computer peripheral I/O device which is at least one of a printer or a visual display.

19. (Previously presented) The cash management system of claim 13, wherein the cash handling device comprises at least one of a coin counting, coin sorting, note sorting, or note counting device.

20. (New) The cash management system of claim 1 or 13, wherein the system control unit performs at least one of the operations of cash dispensing, providing for cash settlement and monitoring maintenance information without needing authorization of user access from a remotely located network host computer.

21. (New) The cash management system of claim 1 or 13, wherein the system control unit performs both of the operations of providing for cash settlement and monitoring maintenance information.

22. (New) The cash management system of claim 13, further comprising at least one I/O device, wherein the I/O device is a cell phone or a personal digital assistant.